

Dear Sir

Williamsburg Virg<sup>a</sup> Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> 1783—

I have taken the first Opportunity, since the Restoration <sup>of Peace</sup> between our respective Countries, to inform you of the Misfortune w<sup>ch</sup> has befallen the two Boxes of Books you left in College. I assure you with Truth, that their ill-Fate gave me much Uneasiness; & that every Thing was done by me to secure them ~~against~~ <sup>amidst</sup> the Calamities & Confusion to w<sup>ch</sup> this Part of our Country was particularly exposed — during of War. The Boxes in w<sup>ch</sup> they were packed were too large to be conveyed into the public Library, as I found upon Experiment; I then ordered them to be carried over to the President's House, in which I lived. But that House, with every Thing it contained, was consumed by Fire. My Books, Furniture &c. shared an equal Fate with your Property.

There was indeed a few Volumes of yours saved from the Flames. Tacitus complete, some of Vol. of Locke & one or two other Books.

Mr. Bracken who promises to take Charge of this, will sh<sup>d</sup> you meet with him, inform you more particularly; and I hope you will be persuaded, at least by him, that nothing was wanting on my Part to secure your Property here, or that if above Accident it by no Means imputable to any Neglect of mine.

Fortunately, Mr. Jefferson had taken previous Care, about £30 st<sup>rs</sup> worth of your Books. By a Law in this Country they were subject to confiscation. It appeared more prudent to part with a few, than expose the whole to certain Loss. He will, I am persuaded, after having of Books valued — transmit a Bill according to their Amount. It w<sup>d</sup> be proper, perhaps to address him upon y<sup>e</sup> Subject, & inform him of your Place of Residence.

Your former Friends in this Place, except Mr. Everard, who is no more, are well. Mr. Wythe is Prof. of Law. Dr. Wiffing of Physic &c. our College, now dignified with y<sup>e</sup> name of The University, begins to flourish, tho it has been much injured by the War. —

May I flatter myself that you will favour me with your Correspondence. Nothing w<sup>d</sup> be more agreeable to me, both on acc<sup>t</sup> of the Esteem I have for you, and the Advantages I sh<sup>d</sup> derive from literary Intelligence — for after so long & total a Suspension of all Intercourse with a country so highly respected for literary Fame, your Communications w<sup>d</sup> be particularly interesting. We still look to England, as y<sup>e</sup> Source from whence



we may derive the greatest Benefit; & amongst the rest,  
that of Knowledge cannot be estimated as of least  
If new Light has been thrown upon y<sup>e</sup> Subject of Nat. Phil.<sup>y</sup> I  
doubt not, & in w<sup>th</sup> I am still engaged, if upon Morals, Rhetoric  
&c in w<sup>th</sup> I expect soon to be engaged, having exchanged the  
Math. Department for that Prof<sup>y</sup> you will oblige me much  
by such Information.

As Republicans, we are striving to render our Country  
virtuous & happy. This undoubtedly is the first Object of every good  
Citizen. But we are sensible how much the Sciences may  
contribute to this important End. Your Love of Man-kind -  
will, I am sure, dispose you to assist those laudable Efforts, and, I  
flatter myself I still possess so much of your Regard, as to  
induce you to believe, that such Assistance will be received with  
Gratitude by myself at least -

I did intend to have written long Friends Mr. Everett  
& Miller - but doubt whether Mr. B's unexpected Departure may  
not prevent me. I am happy when that yourself and Mr. G. have  
met with your deserved promotion. I beg to present them my  
best Respects & sincerest wishes for their Happiness - & to assure  
You that I am with y<sup>e</sup> greatest Esteem

Dear

Y<sup>r</sup> Friend & Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. Madison

Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Kenley -

Ch. A. 2. 103

If there be any Thing here, in w<sup>th</sup> you think I can serve you, I hope  
you will command me.



R. 1122 (2)

Ch. A. 2. 103



17.7  
10.6  
6.3

1.4

2.18.4

19.5.4

2.10.4

Rev Mr Samr. Hoyle  
Harrow on the Hill  
Middlesex

21/58

3/57

8

4.0.6

19.5.4

4.19.11



Rw/1024/31



To

The rev. Mr. S. Henley

favoured by the rev. Mr. Bracken,